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DROYLSDEN URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

INTERIM REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1940.

MINISTRY OF HEALTH LIBRARY

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

Medical Officer of Health - Dr. A. W. Laing, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., Dp.Bact.

Sanitary Inspector & Meat and Food Inspector. - John E. Hart, C.R.S.I., M.I.

Area ..... 1,010 acres.

Population -
At Census 1931 13,270
At June 1940. 25,160

No. of Houses -
At Census 1931 3,280
At end of 1940 8,174

General Rate for 1940 ..... 15/8d. in the £.
Rateable Value ..... £106,600.
Sum represented by a Penny Rate £420.

BIRTH RATE.

During the year the births of 510 infants 268 males and 242 females) were registered. Of these births 3 males and 2 females were illegitimate.

Taking the population at 25,160, the birth rate for the year is 20.2 per 1,000.

DEATH RATE.

During the year the deaths of 296 persons (162 males and 134 females) were registered. This gives a death rate of 11.7 per 1,000.

The above deaths include those of 21 children under one year of age (14 males and 7 females). This gives an infant mortality rate of 41.1.

There were also 22 Still Births (14 males and 8 females).

CAUSES OF DEATH.

	Males.	Females.
Cerebro-Spinal fever	1	1
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System...	7	4
Other forms of Tuberculosis.....	1	3
Syphilitic diseases	4	1
Influenza	2	
Cancer of b.cav: & uterus (F).....	-	2
Cancer of Stomach & Duodenum	1	2
Cancer of Breast	-	7
Cancer of all other sites	11	5
Diabetes	3	1
Intra-cran: vasc: lesions	10	9
Heart disease	34	32
Other diseases of the circ. system ..	2	1
Bronchitis	34	13
Pneumonia	7	6
Other Resp. diseases	4	3
Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	1	1
Diarrhoea under two years	2	-
Appendicitis	-	1
Other digv. diseases	3	2
Nephritis	2	7
Puer. & post-abort. Sepsis	-	2
Other maternal causes	-	2
Premature birth	1	3
Con.Mal: birth injuries: infant dis.	4	2
Suicide	1	1
Road Traffic Accidents.....	4	1
Other violent causes	6	5
All other causes	17	17
	162	134
	296	

LABORATORY FACILITIES.

The following Pathological Specimens were submitted to the Manchester Public Health Laboratory for examination:-

Sputum, 12; throat & nose swabs for Diphtheria 57, Widal reaction, 1.

In addition the following specimens were examined at the Pathological Laboratory of the District Infirmary, Ashton-under-Lyne:-

Throat & nose swabs for Diphtheria 18;
Sputum for Tuberculosis 24.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

Non-Infectious Cases.

Agreements exist between the Manchester City Council and the Ashton-under-Lyne Corporation for the use by Droylsden residents of the Motor Ambulances belonging to these two Authorities.

During the past year the ambulances were used on 445 occasions, i.e. Manchester ambulances 160 cases, and Ashton-under-Lyne ambulances 285 cases.

Infectious Cases.

In cases of Infectious Disease, other than Smallpox, the motor ambulances of the Manchester Corporation are requisitioned for the conveyance of patients to (and from if required) the Monsall Infectious Diseases Hospital.

The ambulance service is excellent.

NURSING IN THE HOME.

The Droylsden Sick Nursing Association employs one whole-time Nurse for the visitation of the sick, but there are no arrangements in existence for the nursing of infectious diseases, e.g. measles, in the home.

HOSPITALS.

There are no Public or Voluntary Hospitals in the district.

CLINICS & TREATMENT CENTRES.

The Child Welfare Centre is the only Clinic in the area and is under the control of the Lancashire County Council.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Sanatorium treatment of tuberculosis is arranged for and provided by the Tuberculosis Department of the Lancashire County Council, whose Dispensary for this district is situated at Ashton-under-Lyne.

MATERNITY.

Complicated maternity cases are sent to St. Mary's Hospital Manchester, and the District Infirmary and the Lake Hospital, Ashton-under-Lyne.

Residents of Droylsden are able to make use of St.Mary's Hospital Maternity Unit. The Maternity Unit consists of a member of the visiting Obstetric Staff together with a Nurse and the necessary equipment for dealing with emergencies. The services of the Unit are available when summoned by the doctor in charge of the case.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Under the terms of an Agreement with the Manchester Corporation, cases which cannot be isolated satisfactorily at home, or where nursing is inadequate, with the exception of smallpox cases, are sent for isolation and treatment at the Monsall Hospital, Manchester. Payment is made by the Council at the rate of actual cost. There is no limit to the number of beds which may be occupied.

Smallpox.

Arrangements have been made whereby cases of smallpox are treated at the Ashton-under-Lyne & District Joint Smallpox Hospital at Hartshead.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Manchester Corporation took over Droylsden's Sewerage in June 1939. Sewage is no longer treated in any way in Droylsden.

HOUSING.

There are no changes in the housing conditions.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk Supply.

There are 80 registered retail purveyors of milk, other than cowkeepers and 5 dairies.

There is one firm licensed to produce pasteurised milk.

There are eight milk distributors in Droylsden who hold special licences for the sale of milk bearing the following designation:- "Grade A (Tuberculin Tested)".

Tuberculosis in Milk.

During the year 32 samples of milk were submitted by the Droylsden Urban District Council for examination for the presence of Tubercle Bacilli. The results were as follows:-

	No.of samples.	Positive.	Negative.
Pasteurised Milk.	8	Nil.	8
Untreated Milk.	24	6	18

The percentage of positive untreated milk is 25% or one in every four. This is a bad record.

Milk Supplied to Schools.

Three specimens of milk were taken by the County Council. All were pasteurised samples and proved negative.

The Lancashire Education Committee provide milk to the four schools in Droylsden. Of these three are supplied with Pasteurised milk, while the other school is given untreated milk which, like all untreated pooled milk, can never be free from tuberculosis for any length of time.

Meat Shops & Slaughterhouses.

There are 27 retail meat shops and two slaughter-houses in Droylsden. With the exception of the local Co-operative Society's premises, there is no extensive slaughtering taking place in the district.

During the year 33 lbs of lamb, 43 lbs of beef, one beast's head and one beast's liver were destroyed as unwholesome meat.

Four pigs' heads were destroyed on account of tuberculosis.

Bakehouses.

At the end of 1940 there were 38 bakehouses on the register, and these have been found to be well kept, cleanly and in good structural condition.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Scarlet Fever showed an increase, the number of cases notified was 42 against 34 in 1939.

Twenty-one cases of Diphtheria were notified, compared with 70 cases in 1939. Of the 21 cases notified, 18 were removed to Isolation Hospital. There were no deaths from diphtheria during the year.

390,000 units of Diphtheria Anti-toxin were supplied to doctors for administration to patients residing in the district.

It is not possible to compare the number of cases of measles and whooping cough with cases in previous years, as there are no records prior to October 1939, when these two diseases became compulsorily notifiable.

Diphtheria Immunisation Scheme.

A Scheme for the active immunisation of children against diphtheria started on the 13th October 1939. The County Council provide the Nurses and the use of the Clinic and contributes 50 % of the cost.

The immunisation is carried out by three of the Medical Practitioners residing in the area. Children from nine months to 14 years are immunised free of cost. The average attendance at each session was 77.

The prophylactic used for children up to 8 years of age is A.P.T. Burroughs & Wellcome Brand (3 doses of .5 c.c. each), and from 8 years onwards, 3 doses of T.A.F. Burroughs & Wellcome Brand (doses of .5c.c., .5c.c. and 1.0c.c.)

During the year 103 pre-school children and 557 school children were completely immunised.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR 1940.

Disease.	Total cases Notified.	Cases admitted to Hospital.
Scarlet Fever	42	18
Diphtheria	21	18
Puerperal Pyrexia	3	2
Pneumonia	11	-
Erysipelas	4	-
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	3	3
Measles	362	-
Whooping Cough	59	-
Totals.	505	41

TUBERCULOSIS.

No action was taken under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations 1925, relating to persons suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis employed in the milk trade or under Section 172 of the Public Health Act 1936 relating to the compulsory removal to hospital of persons suffering from tuberculosis.

New cases of Tuberculosis and Mortality during 1940.

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.		Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Years.								
0-1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
1-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
5-	1	-	1	3	-	-	-	1
10-	-	-	2	1	-	-	-	-
15-	1	4	-	-	-	-	-	-
20-	1	3	-	2	1	-	1	-
25-	2	3	-	-	1	-	-	-
35-	3	2	-	-	2	1	-	-
45-	3	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
55-	2	-	-	-	1	1	1	-
65 & upwards.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	13	12	3	6	6	2	3	3
	25		9		8		6	

A. W. LAING.

Medical Officer of Health.

28th August, 1941.